

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT TACOMA

WILLIAM NELSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

MARY MADDEN; KAYLA AYERS;

CLINT P. JOHNSON; SUSAN ADAMS;

PIERCE COUNTY; PIERCE COUNTY

SUPERIOR COURT,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:25-cv-05490-TMC

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

**I. ORDER**

This matter comes before the Court on review of the joint status report submitted on September 4, 2025. Dkt. 24. On June 5, 2025, the Court entered a Minute Order setting September 3, 2025 as the deadline for the filing of a combined Joint Status Report. Dkt. 19. The Court reminded the parties of this order on September 4, 2025. Dkt. 23. Subsequently, the Defendants submitted a “Joint” Status Report explaining that “they have not had correspondence with the Plaintiff since June 4, 2025.” Dkt. 24 at 1. Defendants explained that they “have made multiple attempts to set up a meeting to discuss the Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan with

1 Plaintiff, to no avail.” *Id.* at 1–2. Defendants recounted multiple attempts to contact Plaintiff with  
2 no response. *Id.* at 2.

3 Plaintiffs have a general duty to prosecute their claims. *See Fid. Phila. Tr. Co. v. Pioche*  
4 *Mines Consol., Inc.*, 587 F.2d 27, 29 (9th Cir. 1978). To “prevent undue delays in the disposition  
5 of pending cases and to avoid congestion in the calendars of the District Courts,” federal courts  
6 may exercise their inherent power to dismiss a case of their own accord for a plaintiff’s failure to  
7 prosecute. *See Link v. Wabash R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 629–31 (1962); *see also Hells Canyon Pres.*  
8 *Council v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 403 F.3d 683, 689 (9th Cir. 2005) (finding that courts may dismiss  
9 cases *sua sponte* pursuant to Rule 41(b) for failure to prosecute).

10 Part of this duty is a requirement to comply with this Court’s orders to meet and confer.  
11 But Mr. Nelson has failed to do so.


12 Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 13 • Not later than September 19, 2025, Mr. Nelson shall show cause in writing why  
14 he has failed to respond to Defendants in compliance with this court’s order and  
15 why this case should not be dismissed without prejudice for failure to respond.

16 Dkt. 19.

17 The Clerk is directed to send uncertified copies of this Order to all counsel of record and  
18 to any party appearing pro se at said party’s last known address.

19 Dated this 5th day of September, 2025.

20   
21 Tiffany M. Cartwright  
22 United States District Judge  
23  
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